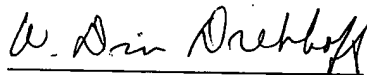


Applicant submits that the new claim patentably distinguishes the claimed invention over the prior art of record and, therefore, requests an early Notice of Allowance for this application.

Respectfully submitted,

8-29-00

Date



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